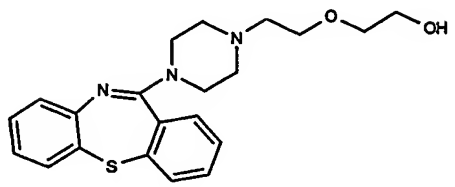
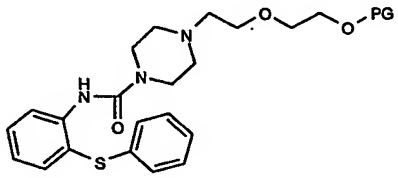
What is claimed is:

1. A method for the preparation of the compound of formula I



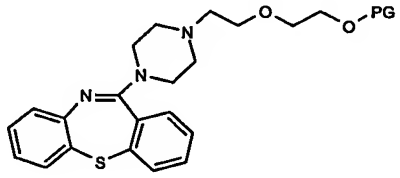
I

by treating a compound of the general formula II



II

wherein PG is a protective group, with a ring closure agent to produce a compound of formula VII



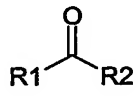
VII

and removing the protective group to produce compound I.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein PG is benzoyl.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the ring closure agent is phosphorus oxychloride and phosphorus pentoxide.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula II is prepared by reaction between 2-phenylsulfanylphenylamine, a compound of formula VI



VI

wherein R1 and R2 may independently be halo, p-nitrophenyl, imidazolyl or -OR wherein R is alkyl or aryl; and

a) 1-[2-(hydroxyethoxy)-ethyl]piperazine, whereby the protective group PG in formula II is subsequently attached;

b) an O-protected derivative of 1-[2-(hydroxyethoxy)-ethyl]piperazine.

5. 4-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)-ethyl]-piperazine-carboxylic acid (2-phenylsulfanyl-phenyl)-amide

6. Benzoic acid 2-{2-[4-(2-phenylsulfanyl-phenylcarbamoyl)piperazin-1-yl]-ethoxy}-ethyl ester

7. Benzoic acid 2-[2-(4-dibenzo[b,f][1,4]-thiazepin-11-yl-piperazin-1-yl]-ethoxy]-ethyl ester